



Date: November 18, 2005
To: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
From: Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: City Report For Week Ending November 18, 2005

This *City Report* highlights various activities for the week ending November 18, 2005. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions. Because City Hall will be closed next Thursday and Friday, the next City Report will be on Friday, December 2.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIP #11

Personal Preparedness: Be in the Know! Five Days of Self-Reliance!

Utilities: Water

- Store five gallons of water for emergency use in a cool, dark, easily accessible place.
- Water in hot-water tanks, pipes and ice cubes, as well as the water in the reservoir tank of the toilet (not the bowl) can be used.
- Be prepared to purify water.
- Know where your water turn-on valve is located.

For previous tips and a complete guide to planning and preparation for an emergency, visit www.longbeach.gov.

NEWS UPDATE

Fire

At the request of Los Angeles Region 1, the Long Beach Fire Department deployed a strike team to Ventura County at 9:00 am this morning. The team is staging at the Ventura County Fairgrounds. Long Beach's strike team will be used in structural protection for the homes adjacent to the involved foothills.

Planning and Building

Discussions on the Port of Los Angeles' Southern California International Gateway Project (BNSF facility) will take place at two Long Beach meetings to be held November 22 and November 28. Public comment will be taken at each meeting, summarized and added to the City's comments on the BNSF Notice of Preparation for the Draft Environmental Impact Report.

NEWS UPDATE

Planning and Building, BNSF Meetings (continued)

- The Long Beach City Council will conduct a Study Session on the BNSF facility on Tuesday, November 22, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Long Beach City Hall, Council Chambers, 333 W. Ocean Blvd. There will be a presentation on both the project and the process related to the BNSF Notice of Preparation.
- The City Council's I-710 Oversight Committee will host a meeting at Elizabeth Hudson School Auditorium, 2335 Webster Ave., Long Beach, on Monday, November 28, to gather public comments.

City Hall Closures During Thanksgiving Holiday

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2005

CLOSED

- City Hall
- Citizen Police Complaint Commission
- Community Development offices and services
- Fire Headquarters, Support Services (ECOC), Fire Prevention & Operations
- Gas Services (Emergencies only: 570-2140)
- Health Department and all off-site Health facilities
- Libraries
- Marina offices
- Park offices, swimming pools, community facilities
- El Dorado Nature Center, Rancho Los Cerritos
- Police administration
- Street sweeping and parking control
- Water Department (Emergencies only: 570-2390)

OPEN

- El Dorado Regional Park
- Fire stations and lifeguard stations
- Police North, South, East and West divisions
- Refuse and recycling collection

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2005

CLOSED

- City Hall
- Citizen Police Complaint Commission
- Community Development offices and services
- Fire Headquarters, Support Services (ECOC), Fire Prevention & Operations
- Gas Services (Emergencies Only: 570-2140)
- Health Department and all off-site Health facilities
- Libraries
- Park offices, swimming pools,
- El Dorado Nature Center and Rancho Los Cerritos
- Police administration
- Street sweeping and parking control
- Water Department (Emergencies only: 570-2390)

OPEN

- Community Park facilities
- El Dorado Regional Park
- Fire stations and lifeguard stations
- Marina offices
- Police North, South, East and West divisions
- Refuse and recycling collection

Libraries will reopen and regular weekend services will continue on Saturday, November 26. Normal business hours and other City services will resume on Monday, November 28.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Water Department and Red Cross Assist Residents With Emergency Preparations

The Long Beach Water Department (LBWD), with the Greater Long Beach Chapter of the American Red Cross, will distribute free emergency water supply kits to 963 Long Beach homes this weekend. Deliveries will include home disaster preparedness literature with a specially marked white box containing 2.5 gallons of bottled water, as well as information on accessing alternative water sources in and around the home and steps to treat water in the event of a contamination

The pilot area, located in the 2nd Council District, was determined based on the ethnic and social economic diversity and good mix of single and multifamily housing units. LBWD has contracted with the Conservation Corps of Long Beach to make the deliveries. LBWD is doing this on a very small pilot scale to determine cost, logistics and to demonstrate what could be done citywide. Running a small demonstration pilot will also assist LBWD in receiving State and Federal grants to carry out a larger program that could ultimately be a pilot for the entire country. This pilot project is the only one of its kind in the United States, according to Red Cross representatives.

Public Works

November was designated *Litter Free Month* in Long Beach, and as part of the campaign, neighborhood clean-up events have taken place or are scheduled. Special clean-up events include:

- On **Saturday, November 19**, residents from Ninth District, Eighth District and Seventh District will pick up trash and litter in their surrounding communities.
- A clean-up event at the Carson Street campus of Long Beach City College was held on November 15.
- A Sixth District clean-up event at the 1900 block of Lime Avenue was held on November 12.

Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau

Thirty residents attended two recent workshops at the Neighborhood Resource Center. On November 10, David White, Redevelopment Project Officer, presented Redevelopment *101* training for residents interested in the role and workings of the Redevelopment Agency.

On November 14, Sgt. Paul Gallo and Officer Ryan Watson, along with PSAs from each patrol division, gave an informative presentation on Long Beach Police Department's Office of Community Oriented Public Safety (COPS), including tools to help analyze community problems and examples of COPS success stories.

MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Community Development and Health And Human Services

Homeless individuals and families are assisted in securing stable, long-term housing through the HOME Security Deposit Program of Housing Services' Rehabilitation Division and the Department of Health and Human Services Multi Service Center. Federal HOME funds are used to provide security deposits, first and last month's rent, and utility deposits to enable those who cannot afford *up front costs* to secure a decent place to live. The program has assisted seven families with security deposits totaling \$11,340. Staff is currently processing two additional families for assistance during the month of December. The program's Fiscal Year goal is to assist 100 homeless individuals and families to qualify for a decent, long-term place to live. The 2005-2006 HOME Action Plan budgeted \$200,000 for this program.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,372 emergency calls for service: 136 calls for fires, of which 9 involved structures; and 705 emergency medical calls, of which 502 required paramedics.

Police

Citywide, Police Officers responded to 709 priority one, 1,483 priority two and 1,242 priority three calls for service, for a total of 3,434 calls for the reporting period.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Fire

On November 15, Long Beach Fire Ambassadors and Engine 5 visited Newcomb Elementary to teach third grade students the importance of fire safety. On November 16, the Ambassadors and Engine 4 worked with third grade students at Willard Elementary. Students at both schools went through the Fire Safety House.

On November 12, firefighters from Engine 3 participated in the *No Love Family Fair*. Engine 17 gave a career talk at the Community Policing Fair at Memorial Hospital and Engine 10 attended the Community Fair at the 10th St. Baptist Church. All firefighter's handed out safety brochures and gave tours of the apparatus.

On November 14, Battalion Chief Jeff Reeb spoke to the Women's Division of the Jewish Federation of Greater Long Beach and West Orange County about disaster preparedness in the home.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

Accessibility improvements are complete at the restrooms and drinking fountains at Arbor Grove and Lakeview picnic areas in El Dorado Regional Park. The wheelchair-accessible picnic tables have been installed under the canopy and near the fire ring.

NEIGHBORHOODS (continued)

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Planning and Development Bureau

Work is continuing at the new Grace Park and Blair Field.

Police

The monthly Community Crime Prevention meeting was held on November 16 at the Long Beach Water Department. Motor Officer Russ Clark and Accident Investigations Sergeant Hans Kohnlein highlighted the legal aspects and dangers of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. A representative from Mothers Against Drunk Driving also discussed the seriousness of drunk driving accidents.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Enrichment Programs Bureau

Approximately 200 patrons visited the *Simple Saturday* event held at the El Dorado Nature Center on November 12. *Simple Saturday* educates the public about sustainable lifestyle alternatives. The presenter distributed information and spoke about the Center for Food and Justice's Farm-to-School Program, which addresses the issues of the rising need for healthier foods in people's diets and sustainable farming practices by having local farmers directly provide food for school cafeterias.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Community Recreation Programs Bureau

On November 18, the Long Beach Senior Center and the Long Beach WRAP (Winners Reaching Amazing Potential) After School Program hosted an intergenerational program, *Thanksgiving: A Time of Plenty, A Time of Sharing*. Approximately 90 Seniors and children worked together on a Thanksgiving coloring project and wood, gems, and minerals; sang; shared family photos; demonstrated musical instruments; and participated in an essay contest.

The four-day *Speedo Cup Invitational*, with an average daily attendance of approximately 2,000 athletes and spectators from California and surrounding states, was held on November 16 at Belmont Plaza Pool.

Parks, Recreation and Marine, Special Events and Filming Bureau

Circus Broadway, with an estimated attendance of 5,500, was held in the Marina Green, adjacent to the Shoreline Village, from November 11 through November 14.

Paramount Pictures, with a cast and crew of 60, filmed a TV production *Medium* at 1136 Linden Ave. and at St. Mary's Hospital on November 15.

Warner Brothers, with a cast and crew of 100, filmed a TV production *Cold Case* at 611 W. Pacific Coast Hwy. on November 16.

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OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE

Long Beach Gas & Oil, Gas Services Bureau

Staff completed a total of 3,238 service calls. This total included 989 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 738 Turn Offs. During this period, 1,288 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 223 meter maintenance and billing-related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 557 emergency phone calls that resulted in 137 emergency orders being sent out.

Public Works, Street Improvements

Contact: 570-5160

Anaheim St. Alamitos Ave to St. Louis Ave.

Clark Ave. Spring St. to Wardlow Rd.

Estimated Completion: November 2005

Del Amo Blvd. Los Angeles River to Long Beach Blvd.

Artesia Blvd. West of Long Beach Blvd. to Harbor St.

Atlantic Ave. North of Artesia Blvd. to a point North of 68th St.

Cherry Ave. North of Artesia Blvd. to 70th St.

Artesia Blvd. East of Obispo Ave. to Downey Ave.

7th Street Junipero Avenue and Redondo Avenue

Estimated Completion: December 2005

Long Beach Water, Alley Service Lateral Conversion

Contact: 570. 2326

Cedar Ave. E. Burnett St. to Hill St.

Chestnut Ave. E. Burnett St. to Hill St.

Pasadena Ave. E. Burnett St. to Pacific Electric Railroad

Linden Ave. E. Burnett St. to 25th Way

Estimated Completion: April 2006

GRM: KP: arc

cc: Christine Shippey, Assistant City Manager
 Reginald Harrison, Deputy City Manager
 Suzanne Mason, Deputy City Manager
 City Manager Department Heads
 Tom Modica, Manager of Government Affairs
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